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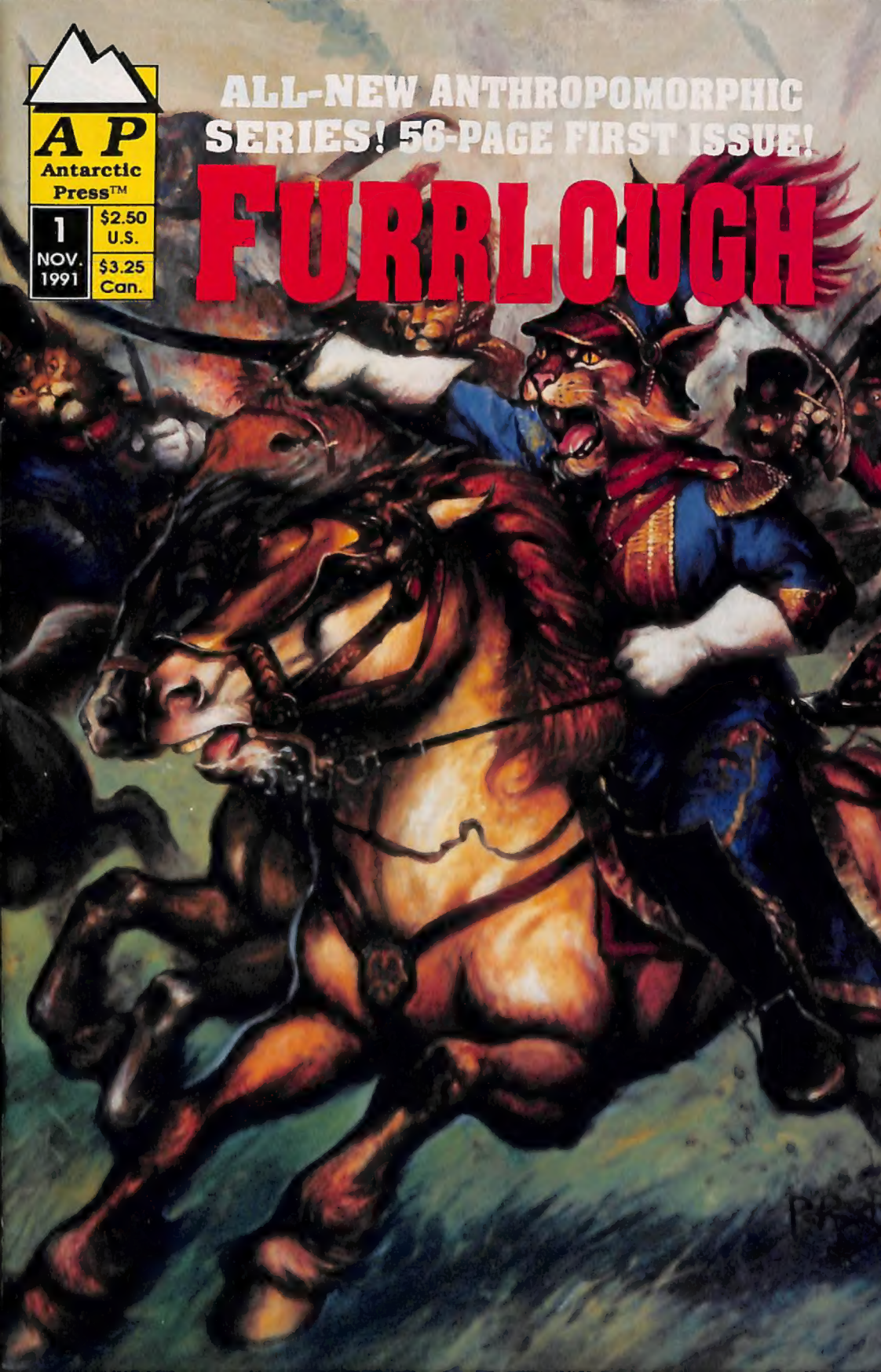
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# FURRLOUGH





BEN DIAN / DAVEY JONES

# FURRLOUGH

Number 1, November 1991



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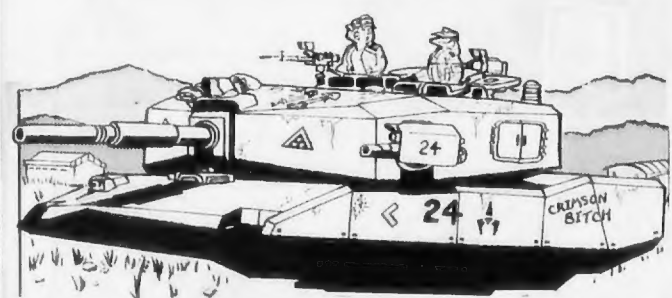
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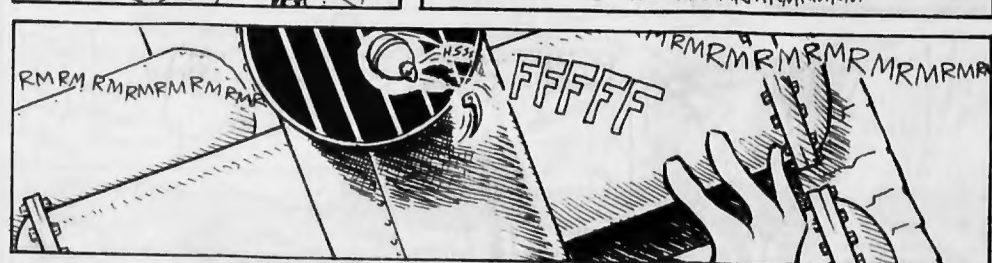
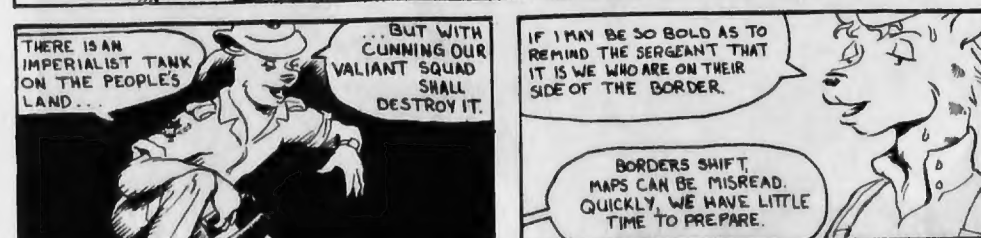
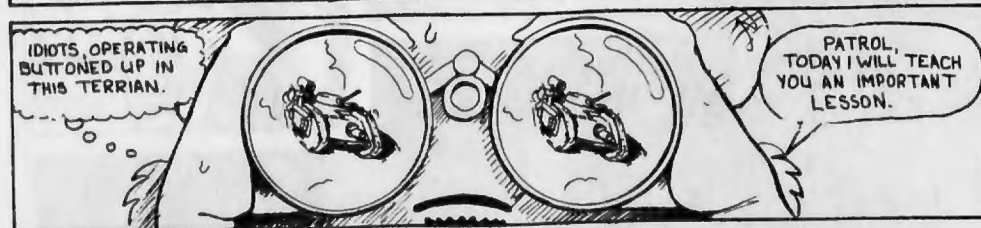
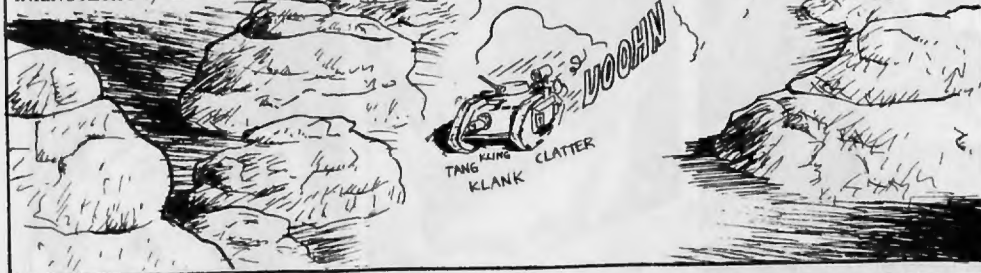






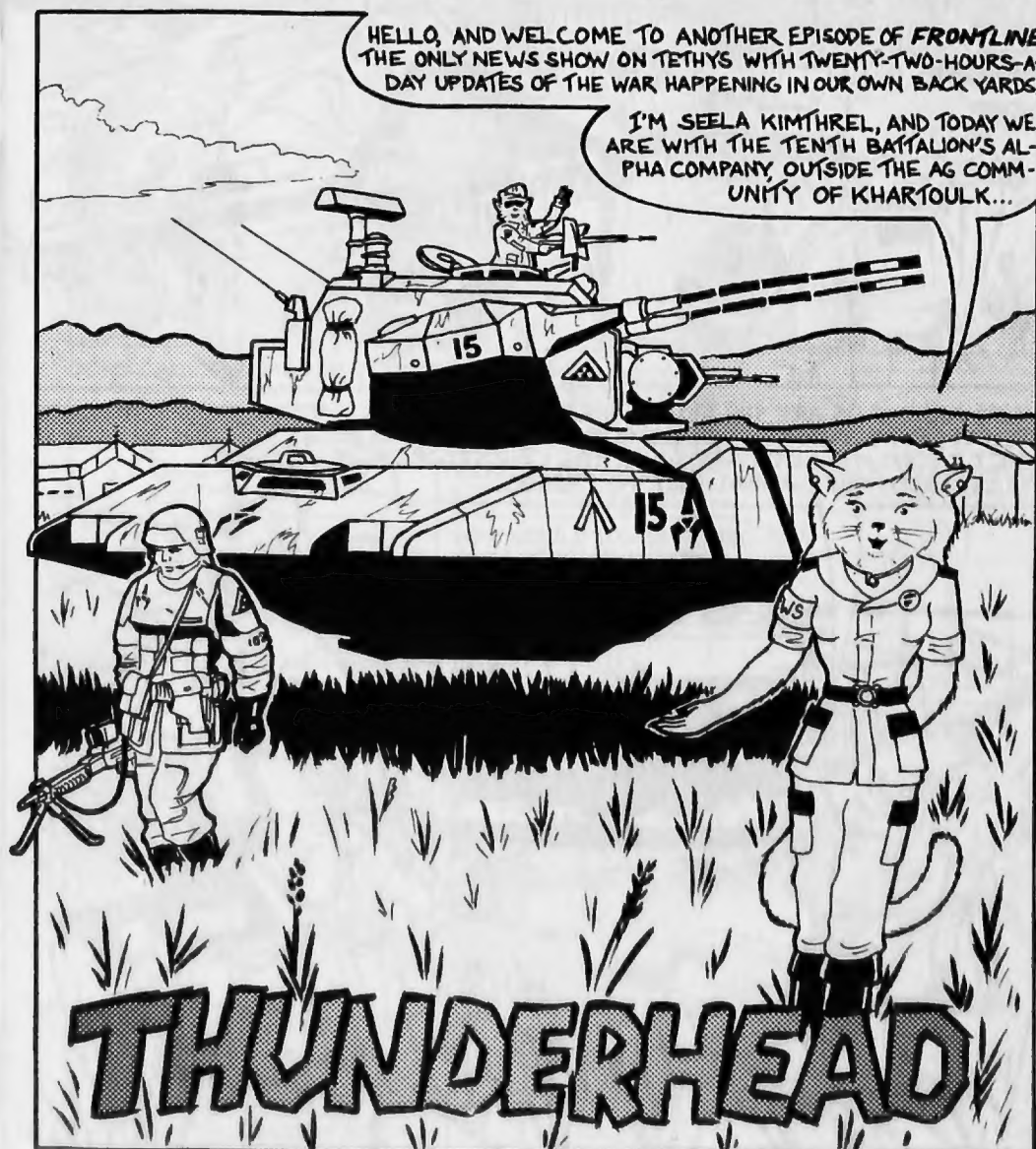
# THE PROTOTYPE

STORY and ART by BRIAN SUTTON  
LETTERS by STEVE BLAKE  
INKING ASSIST by MATTHEW DUTCHMAN





# EMPIRES



STORY/ART/LAYOUT: CHRIS GRANT LETTERING: LANCE RUND INKS/ZIP: ERIC ELLIOTT © 1991 CHRIS GRANT



CENTRAL ALLIANCE FORCES LIBERATED THE TOWN SHORTLY BEFORE DAWN IN A CATAclysmic TANK BATTLE. EVIDENCE OF IMPERIAL DEFEAT, SUCH AS THIS ARMORED CAR, ARE ALL AROUND US.



ALSO AROUND US ARE THE ALLIED SOLDIERS THAT TOOK PART IN TODAY'S VICTORY. THEY COME FROM ALL CORNERS OF THE CENTRALITY. LET'S SEE WHAT THE LINE TROOPS HAVE TO SAY ABOUT THE COMBAT THEY'VE FACED...



DON'T CALL ME "MA'AM".



I'M SQUAD SERGEANT KETTERINA BARONA, AND I WORK FOR A LIVING. WHAT DO YOU WANT?

JUST A FEW QUESTIONS, IS ALL. WHERE ARE YOU FROM, SERGEANT?

AND HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN IN THE SERVICE?

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE ACTION HERE A FEW HOURS AGO?

VET'CHAREK.

FIVE YEARS, CENTRAL STANDARD CALENDAR



INTENSE. Y'KNOW, FELLA, I KNOW THAT MAKES YOU FEEL POWERFUL, BUT IF WE HAVE TO FIRE IT, YOU'LL END UP A BETTER SOPRANO THAN I AM...

UHHH...



WELL... AHH... THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME, SERGEANT. I GUESS THAT'S ALL THE QUESTIONS FOR NOW...

MY PLEASURE. I THINK THERE'S SOME BODIES OVER BY THAT BLASTED OUT GRAINERY. MIGHT BE SOME GOOD FOOTAGE.



YOU TORTURED THAT POOR GIRL. SHAME ON YOU, KETIE.

VHRIOL FOR THE VULTURES, SIERRA. IT GOES AGAINST MY BITTER NATURE TO BE KIND TO BLOODSUCKERS.

SO, WHAT'S OUR STATUS?



JUST A SEC...

**TOMAC! WAKE UP! TIME TO DRIVE, YOU WEENIE! FOLLOW THE COURSE IN YOUR NAVCOM AND TAKE THE LEAD!**

OKAY, HERE'S THE DEAL. BRAVO'S TAKING OUR OVERWATCH POSITIONS HERE, AND NOW WE GOTTA RUN LIKE HELL TO CATCH UP WITH THE REST OF OUR PEOPLE.

WHERE AT?





PLACE CALLED "RIVER CROSSING,"  
NEAR HILL 5402. BARELY A SPOT  
ON THE MAP... I DOUBT THE 'KONS  
EVEN BOTHERED TO RECON IT.

I HOPE SO...



...WE NEED A BREAK.

AMEN.



TWO HOURS LATER...

NO BREAK  
TODAY, KIDDO...



WE NEED SOME  
88-MIL, NOW!

I KNOW, I KNOW!  
IT'S COMIN'!



CYCLE  
FASTER, DAMMIT!

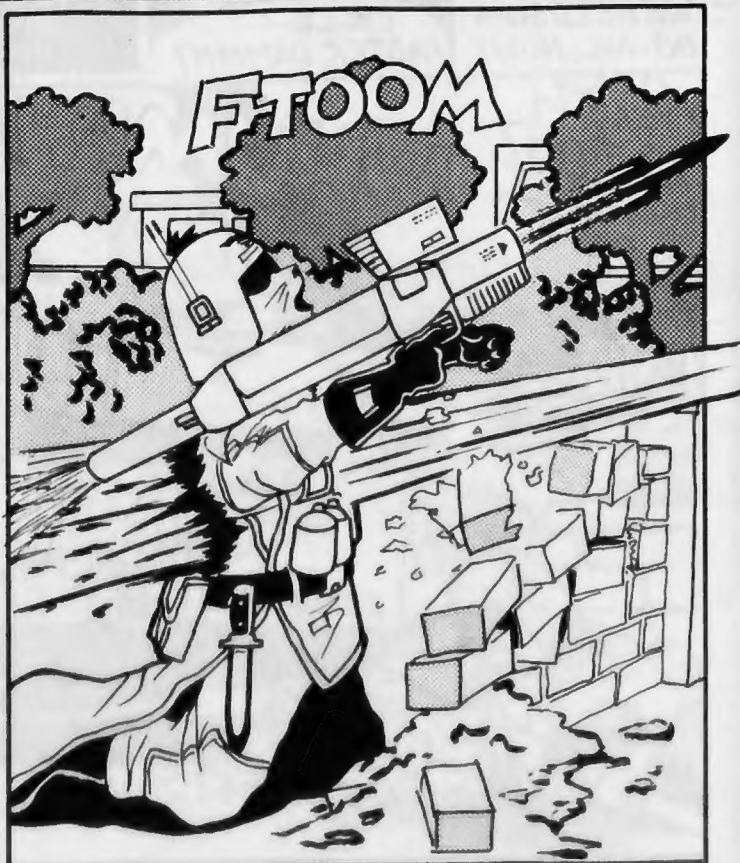
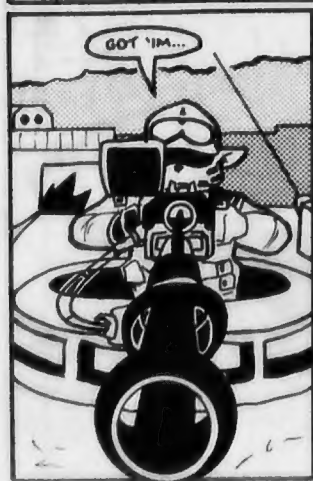
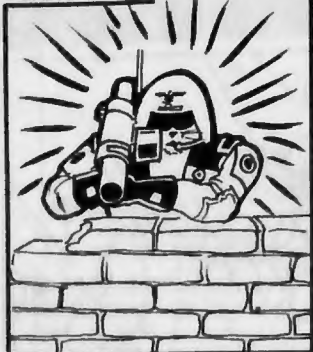


YEAH!  
BYE THAT!  
AWRIGHT,  
KETTE!





"SIERRA...!"



16.



"TOMAC... TAKE US THROUGH THE PARK... SLOWLY. LET THE INFANTRY KEEP UP. WE'LL LINK WITH THIRD SQUAD JUST AHEAD."



17.



HI, SIERRA. DONE WITH MY SERGEANT? CAN I HAVE HER BACK NOW?

HI, CELON. YOUR SERGEANT?

MY SERGEANT. I LET YOU BORROW HER TO FIRE YOUR GUN... NOW SHE CAN FIRE MINE.

WILL YOU KIDS GO SOMEWHERE ELSE BEFORE I THROW UP?

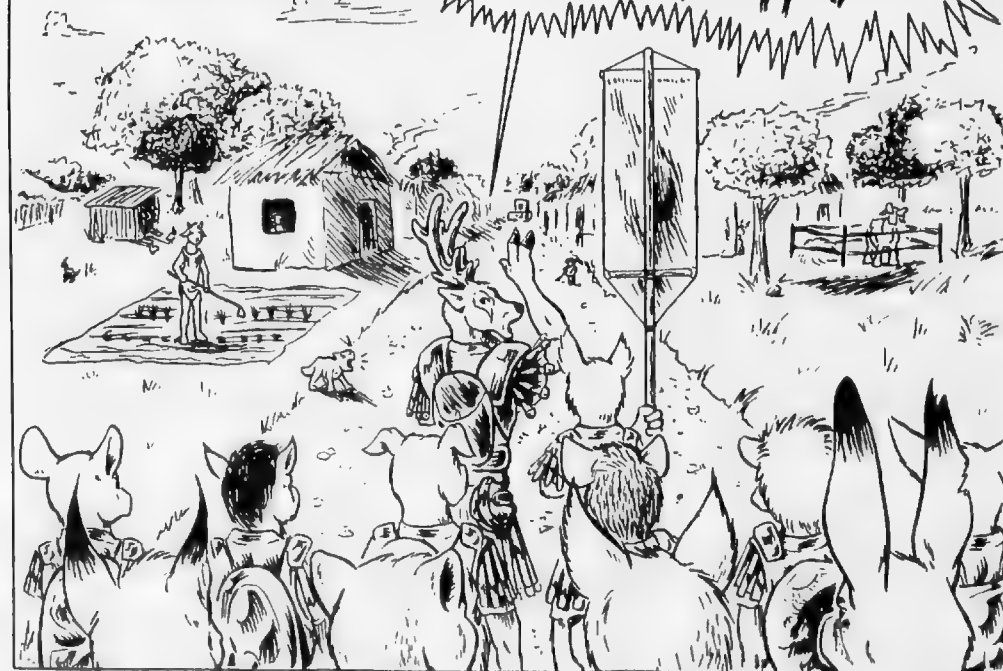


20.

CONTINUED...

IT IS AUTUMN: THE TIME FOR HUNTING AND HARVESTING, FOR PREPARING FOR THE WINTER. A TIME OF HARD WORK FOR ALL.

IN THIS PLACE MOST PEOPLE WORK IN THE FIELDS. BUT, AS ALWAYS, THERE ARE THOSE WHO MAKE A LIVING IN BRONZE INSTEAD OF WHEAT...



# FERAE BESTIAE

STORY AND ART BY JOE ROSALES



\* SECOND COMMANDER

21.



FINE, FINE! I MUST SAY, I DIDN'T EXPECT THE PRAETOR TO RESPOND SO FORCEFULLY TO OUR LETTER.

LETTER?



WE ARE ONLY PASSING THROUGH ON OUR WAY TO CORACULUM.

OH... THEN YOU ARE NOT HERE TO...



PERHAPS YOU SHOULD TELL US OF THIS LETTER, ELDER.

I... WE WROTE TO THE PRAETOR ABOUT A WILD BEAST WHICH ROAMS THE COUNTRYSIDE.



AT FIRST IT STAYED IN THE WOODS, BUT IT GROWS BOLDER EVERY DAY. ALREADY IT HAS KILLED FIVE OF OUR PEOPLE, AND WE ARE BEHIND IN THE HARVEST. MY OWN SON WAS NEARLY KILLED WHEN THE VORG ATTACKED HIS HUNTING PARTY—

EXCUSE ME? YOU SAY A VORG? LIKE THOSE?



WELL—NO, IT'S MUCH LARGER. AS TALL AS A MAN, WITH GREAT TUSKS! WE FEAR TO WORK THE FIELDS FOR WHAT IT HAS DONE TO ANIMALS.

A VORG—HM.

COMMANDER...



SIR, I'VE SEEN VORGS GROW TO GREAT SIZE IN THE WILD. IF THIS ONE HAS KILLED, THEN IT COULD TRULY BE A DANGER.

ARE YOU SAYING WE SHOULD DELAY THE MARCH FOR THIS? PETRIUS...



I'M SAYING WE SHOULD CONSIDER, MARCUS. THE MEN HAVE BEEN MARCHING HARD SINCE PERSELUM, AND WE CAN AFFORD A DAY OR TWO.

HHMM.



ALL RIGHT, CAPTAIN. TELL THE MEN WE'LL CAMP HERE FOR THREE NIGHTS, AND TOMORROW WE'LL HAVE A LITTLE VORG-HUNTING RECREATION!



NEXT DAY:

ALL RIGHT, SPREAD OUT! YOU HAVE YOUR AREAS. JUST STAY IN EARSHOT OF THE MAN TO YOUR RIGHT!

HEY, MAYBE WE SHOULD BE CARRYING ROASTING FORKS INSTEAD OF SWORDS!

HOW 'BOUT A BASTING BRUSH? HA HA HA!



I THOUGHT WILD VORG HUNTING WAS A SPORT FOR RICH SENATORS.

IT IS! DIDN'T YOU HEAR ABOUT OUR PROMOTIONS?

SOOOEEY!

THERE'S THE FAT, UGLY BEAST—OH, SORRY, LAVIUS!

THIS IS FOR THE GLORY OF THE REPUBLIC! SHOULDN'T WE BE AFTER BENDUNOTHS OR SOMETHING?

VORGS ARE A BIGGER CHALLENGE THAN THE BENDUNOTHS!



DON'T KILL IT RIGHT AWAY! MAYBE WE CAN MAKE IT A CONCUBINE FOR CLEVIUS!

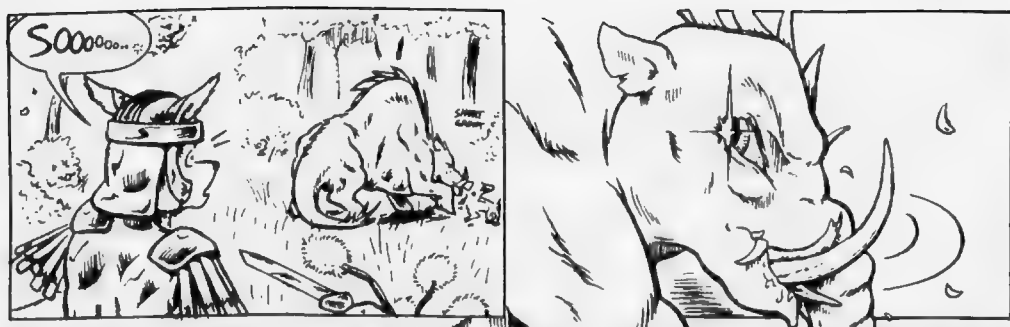
SURE—THEN IT'D KILL ITSELF!

HA HA HA!



MAYBE WE WON'T NEED TO KILL IT! MAYBE IF WE GIVE IT A NICE APPLE IT'LL GO AWAY! SOOOEEY!



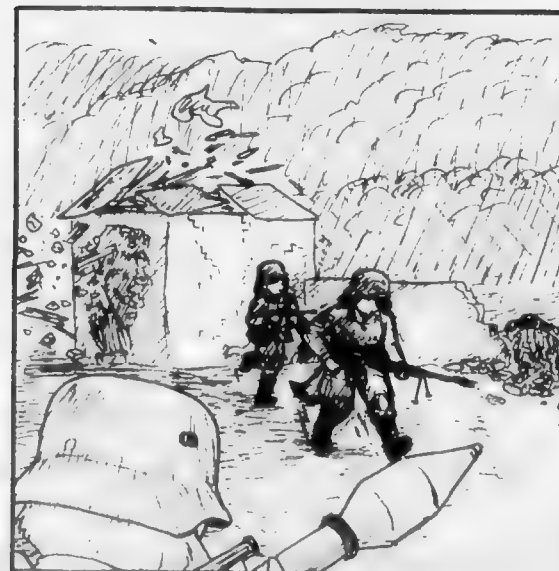
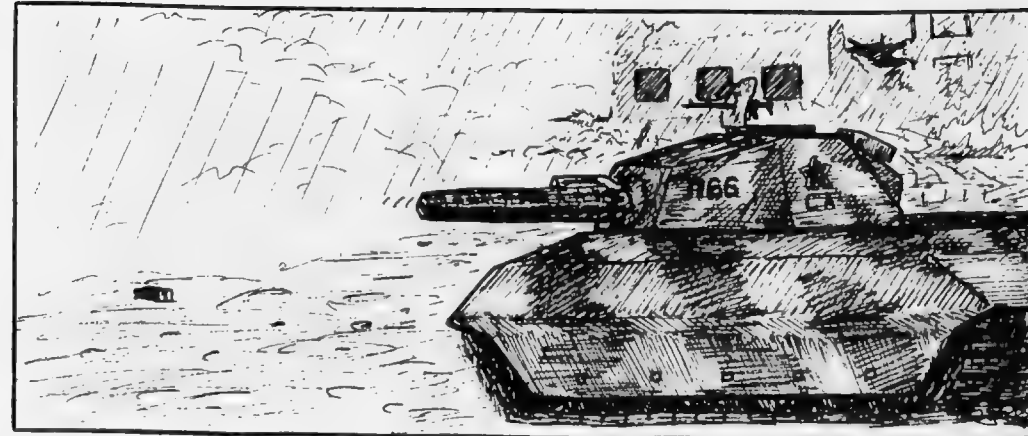


# Deutsches Stosstruppen

Damit Sie auch morgen  
in Frieden leben können



26.

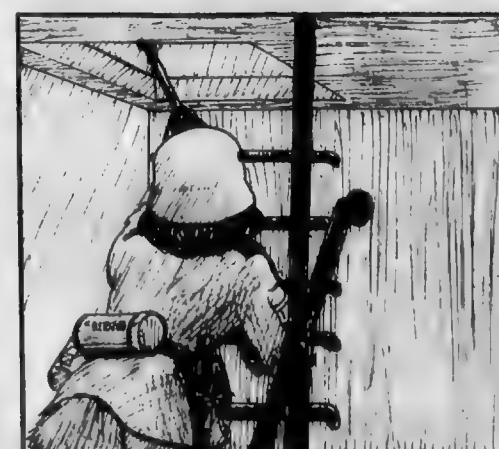


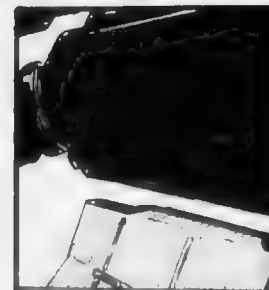
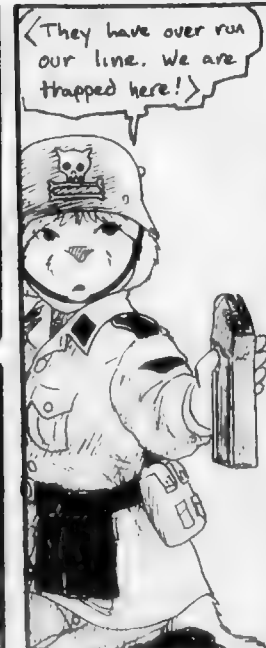
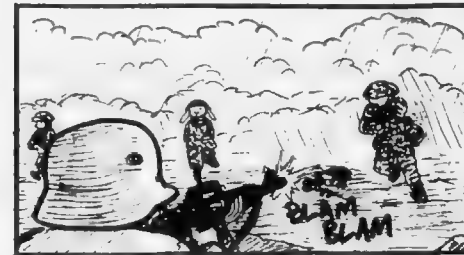
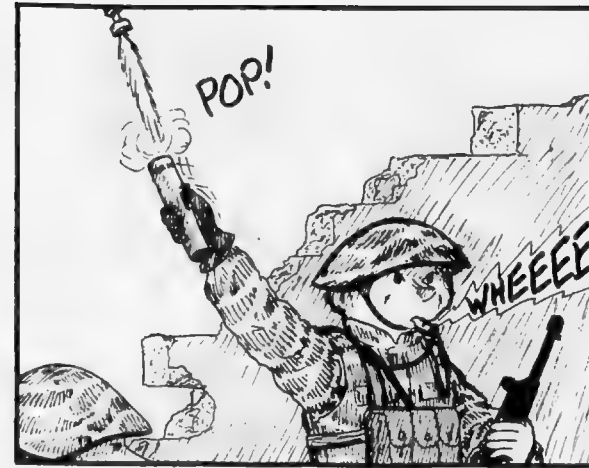
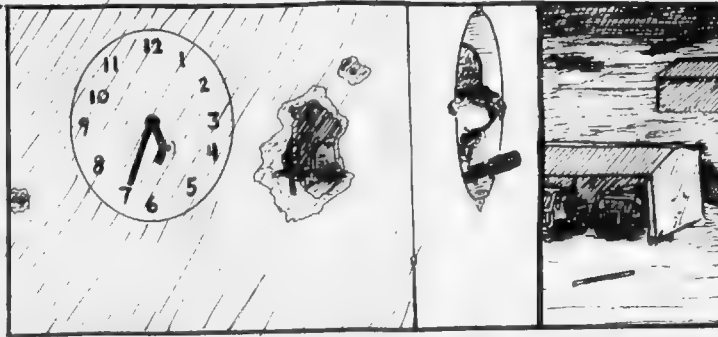
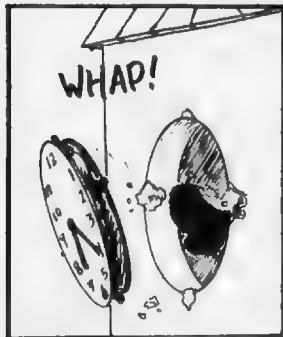
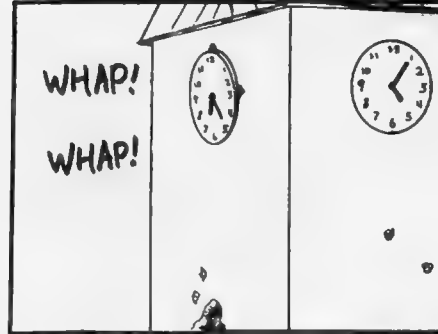
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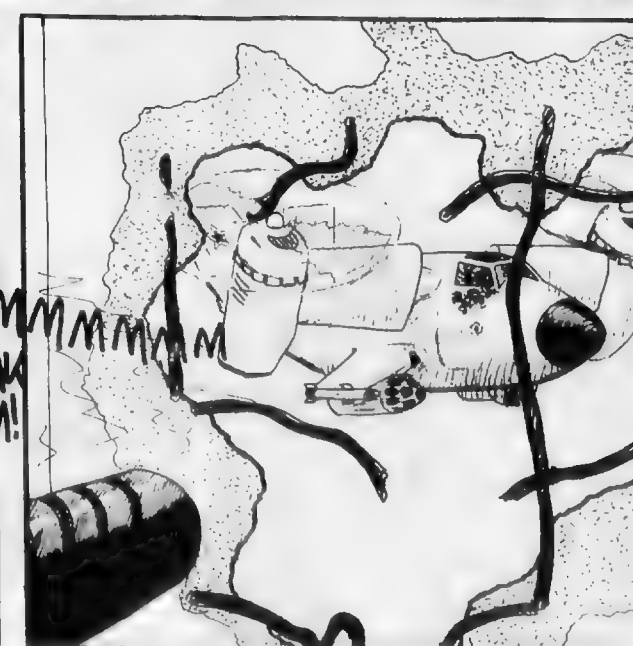
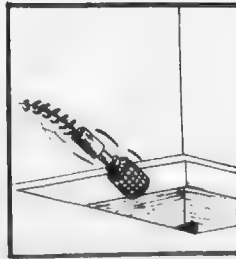
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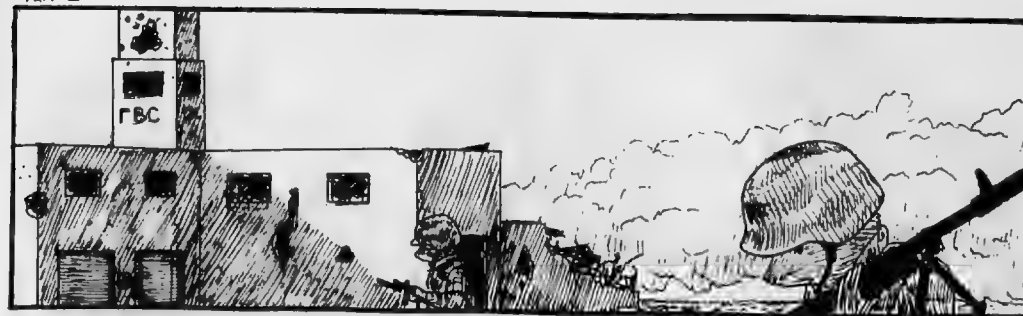
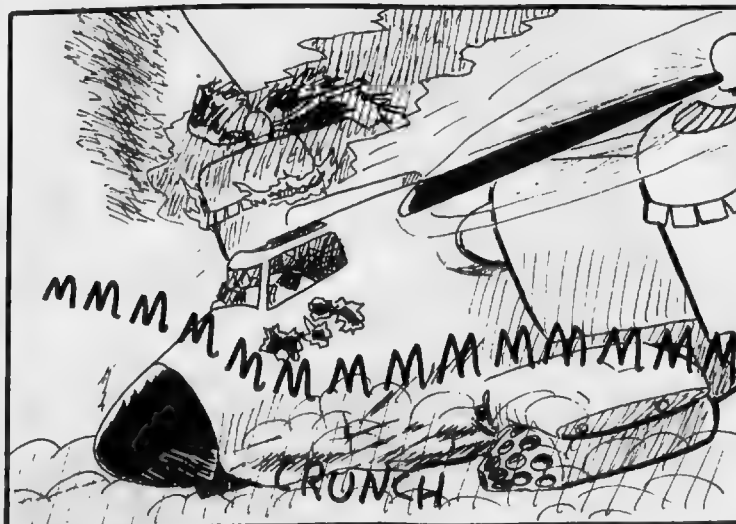
















In the far future, the governments of Earth's colonies were blackmailed by the the central Terran congress into signing the *Grand Constitution and Statement of Planetary Rights* -- which wasn't hard, considering the Earth still had the monopoly on faster-than-light drive.

The most unusual aspect of this treaty was a complete disallowance of nuclear weapons or any other weapon of mass destruction. As a result, individual governments were allowed to delegate or hire military forces for defense (or offense) against other planetary opposition. Of course, this created a market rich for mercenaries.



This is the story of two particular mercen--uh, "Subsidized Front-Line Combat Engineers"; a pair who have garnered as much infamy as glory in their careers.



# CHET & Valentine

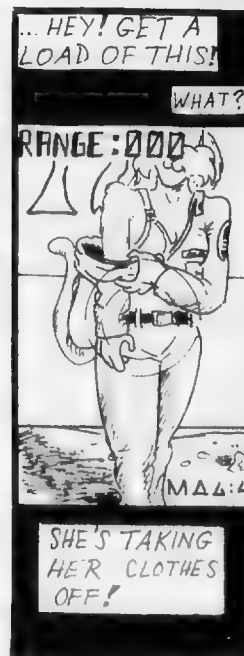
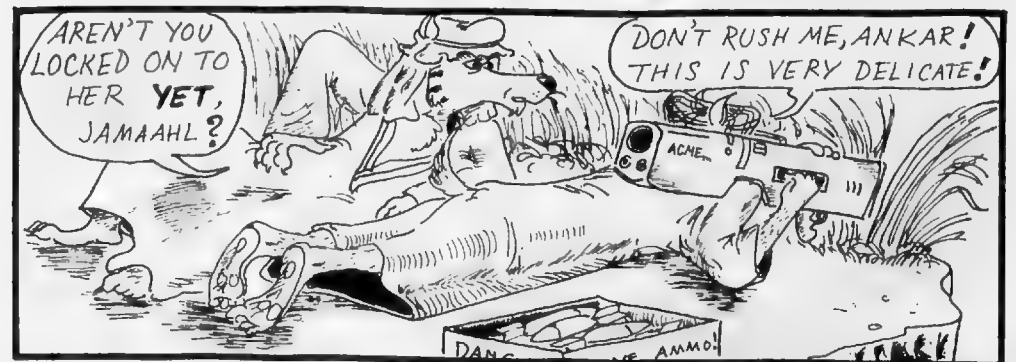
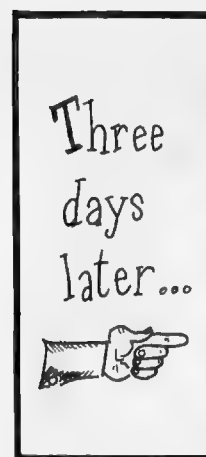
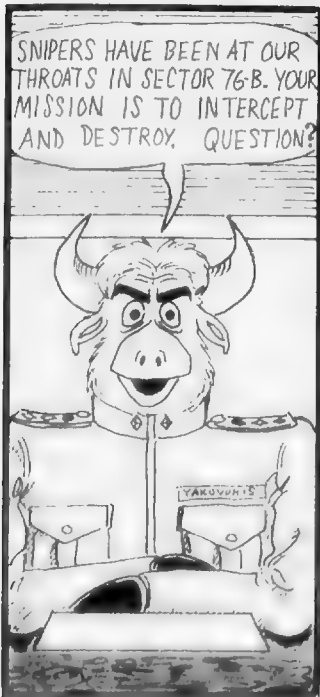
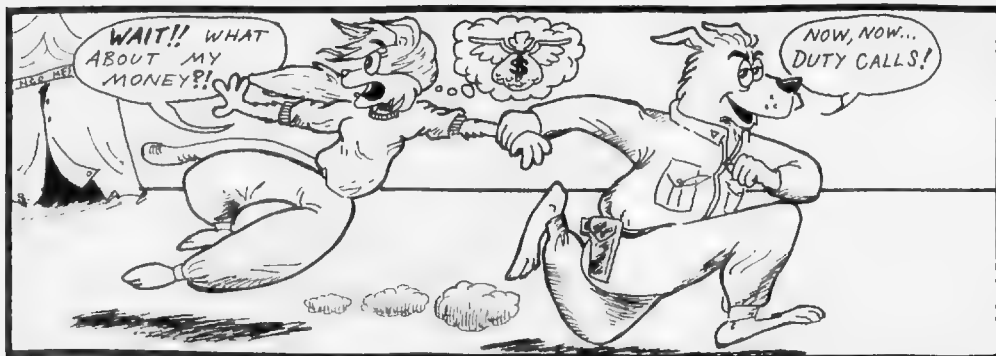
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AS WE LOOK IN ON OUR HEROES, WE FIND THEM INVOLVED IN AN ANCIENT CONTEST OF GUILE AND STRATEGY:

































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